

Entry Requirement #6 - Introductory Letter

Dear IFEA,

The eyes of the world were on Dublin, Ohio, USA in 2013 as The Presidents Cup came to town to play on Jack Nicklaus' world-class course at Muirfield Village Golf Club. After a victory was secured by the U.S. team, Dublin became the only city in the world to host a Presidents Cup, Ryder Cup and Solheim Cup.

Visitors from all continents witnessed first-hand what our residents and corporate citizens have come to know about our city. It's why the readers of *Columbus Monthly* magazine have voted Dublin the Best Suburb in Central Ohio and the Dublin Irish Festival as the Best Festival in Central Ohio. It's also the reason Dublin was named an IFEA World Festival & Event City in 2012 – with the judges selecting Dublin as the Most Outstanding Global Entry in our population category.

One of the reasons our community thrives in the festival and event industry is because of the overall strength of and support from our community as well as the Columbus Region. Here are just a few of our recent achievements:

- Movoto.com named Dublin The Happiest Suburb in America
- NeighborhoodScout recognized Dublin as one of the Top 100 Safest Cities in America
- Dublin was acknowledged as a Bicycle Friendly City by the League of American Bicyclists
- All three high schools have been named to *Newsweek's* list of the top high schools in the country
- The Intelligent Community Forum honored Dublin as one of the Top Seven Intelligent Communities in the world – twice!
- Fox Business News proclaimed Dublin the No. 1 city in the country in which to start a business
- Business Week Online cited Dublin as the best small city in Ohio for start-ups

We take great pride in these achievements, but perhaps none speak more highly of our community than our residents declaring Dublin the Best Place to Live as part of the National Citizen Survey.

Within these pages, we invite you to learn more about the attributes of Dublin, including our strong business community, entrepreneurial spirit and signature events like the Dublin Irish Festival and the Memorial Tournament. Our schools have developed athletic facilities that are used year-round for local, regional and international tournaments, and feature performing arts centers, which rival entertainment venues in many metropolitan communities. Our 1,200 acres of parkland have allowed us to create green spaces conducive to community ceremonies as well as grand international events. And, when it comes to sporting events, the combination of city, school and private facilities – with nighttime lighting, permanent seating and abundant parking – creates venues that can host thousands of participants and spectators on any given day.

Dublin offers a wide variety of restaurants, conveniently located shopping centers and 14 hotels with more than 2,000 rooms and suites. Additionally, you'll find outstanding public recreational amenities, including two outdoor swimming pools, a state-of-the-art recreation facility, more than 100 miles of bike paths and 56 parks featuring a variety of amenities. Our revitalized Historic District, which is being transformed into a highly walkable, urban district, will offer greatly expanded options in housing, employment, transportation and entertainment. When all of these vibrant elements are woven together, they make a city not just a place to live, but a place to celebrate.

Join us to see why Dublin, Ohio, USA is a World Festival & Event City.

Sincerely,
Marsha I. Grigsby
City Manager